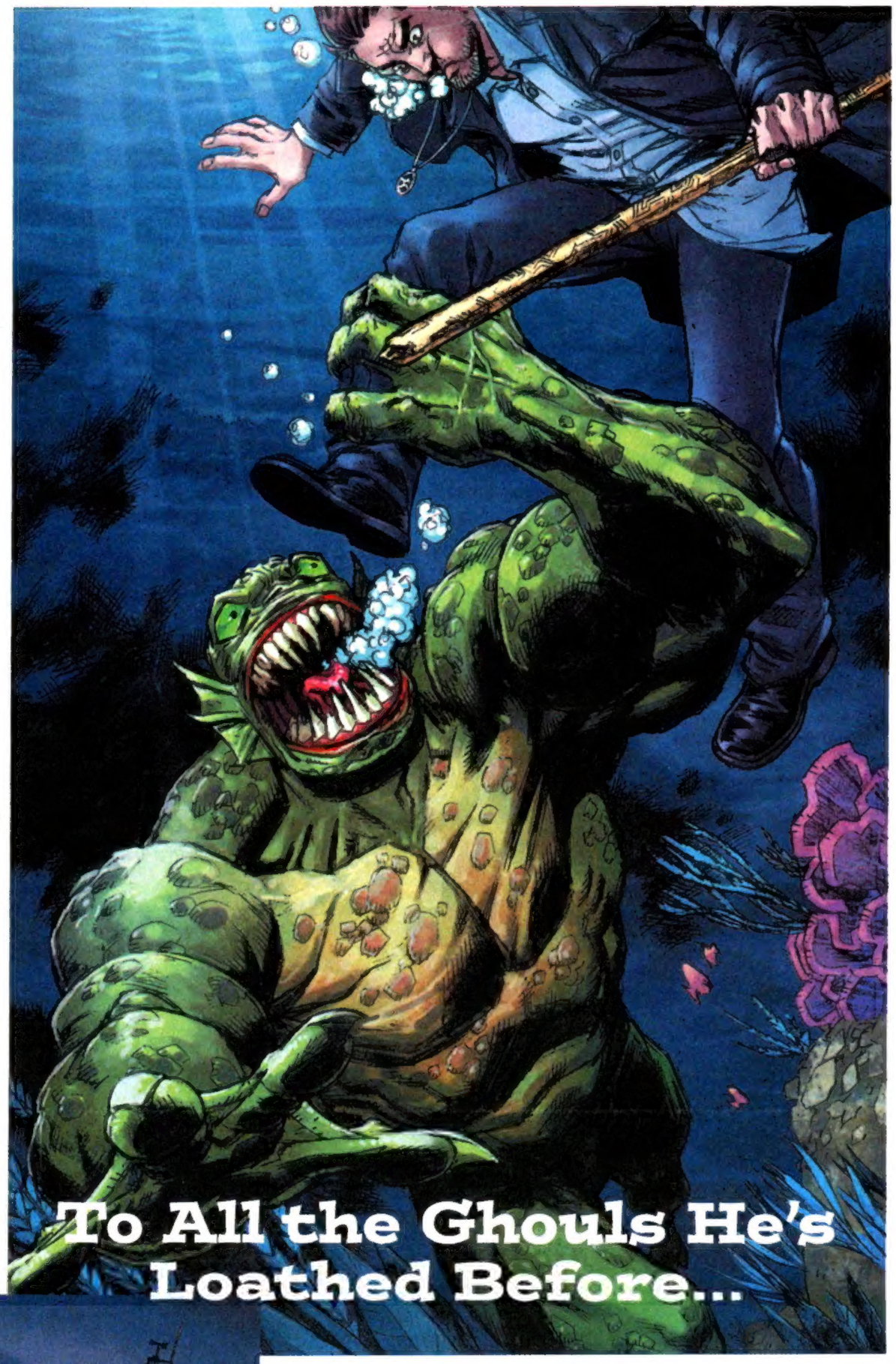
1323

COMIC SHOP NEWS

JIM BUTCHER'S DRESDEN FILES
GHOUL GOBLINS

To All the Ghouls He's Loathed Before...

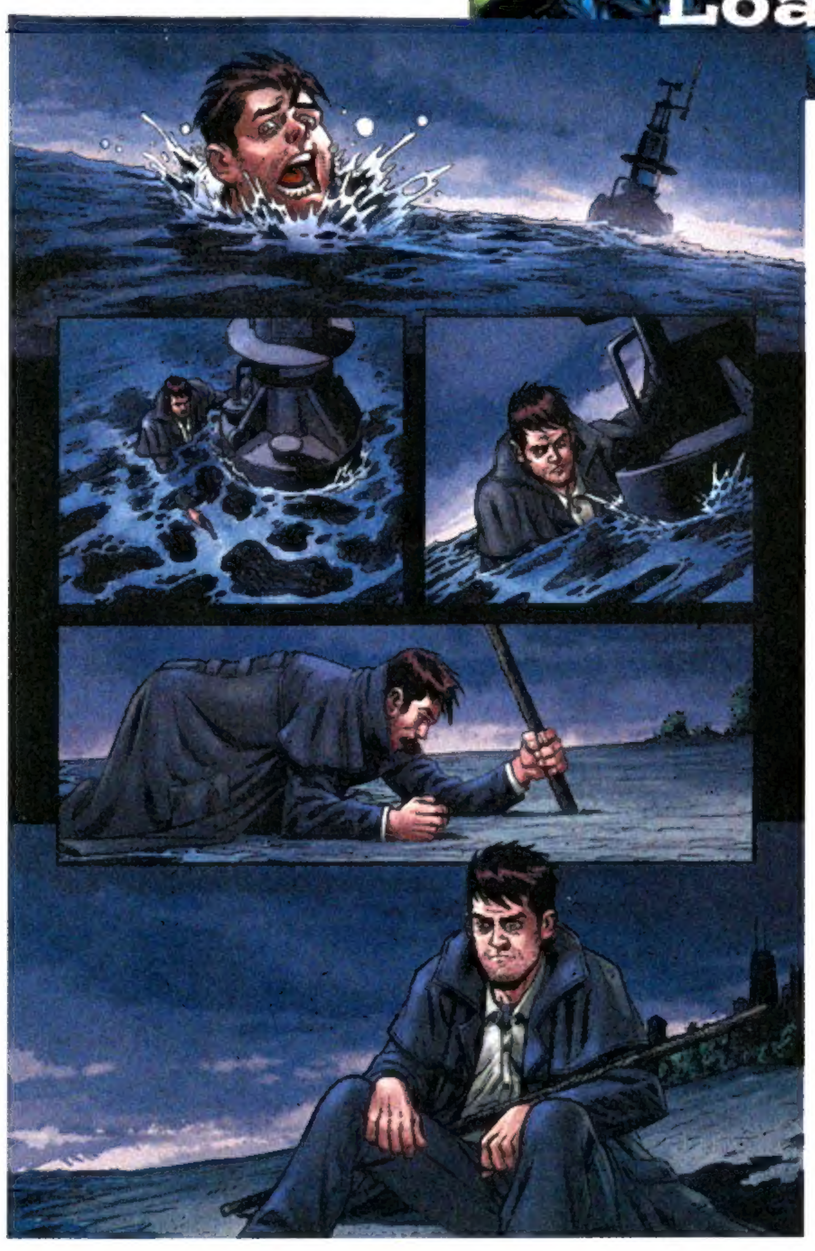


Most ordinary people would be more than a little unnerved by the idea of confronting ghouls, goblins, and other macabre creatures. But Harry Dresden isn't an ordinary person—he's a supernatural private eye and a wizard in his own right. And those skills are about to come in very handy in ***Jim Butcher's Dresden Files: Ghoul Goblin,*** an original series co-written by Harry Dresden creator *Jim Butcher* that is slated for early 2013 release from Dynamite Entertainment.

"We've enjoyed the opportunity to adapt *Jim Butcher's* best-selling novels in comics form," publisher *Nick Barrucci* said, "but we're particularly thrilled by this brand new opportunity to present an original Harry Dresden comic book adventure created and co-written by *Jim Butcher,* who's working closely with co-writer *Mark Powers* to bring this story to our readers."

Jim Butcher offered a brief synopsis of the premise of ***Ghoul Goblin.*** "Harry Dresden, Professional Wizard, is hired by a small-town deputy sheriff to look into some mysterious deaths. Dresden heads off to figure out what's going on, and finds himself embroiled in a conflict between two deadly supernatural predators. This an original six-issue limited series, much like ***Welcome to the Jungle.***"

Butcher said that ***Ghoul Goblin*** fits into the early years of Harry Dresden's adventures, "between ***Fool Moon*** [the second ***Dresden Files*** novel] and ***Grave Peril*** [the third ***Dresden Files*** novel]."



What led Butcher, a best-selling novelist, to create an original Harry Dresden story for comics rather than turning it into a new megaselling novel? "I've never meant ***The Dresden Files*** to be a day-by-day accounting of Harry's life," Butcher explained. "In the books, you really just get to see pretty much the worst weekend of his year. So when I plan stories, all the biggest, coolest ones get set aside for the novels—but I get *dozens* of smaller ideas for every novel-length one, stories that just won't work as part of a book or as a standalone novel.

"When I get a chance to tell a smaller or differently focused story, in whatever other media, I like to be able to get some of these ideas out of my head, to make room for more ideas that don't quite fit," Butcher said with a smile.

Butcher isn't working solo on ***Dresden Files: Ghoul Goblin,*** however. "I wrote the plot and the outline, and *Mark Powers*—who possibly has the greatest comic-book writer name you could possibly have—is writing the final scripts," Butcher said.

The fact that Butcher chooses to tell some of these stories in comic book format indicates that he has an appreciation for the art form. Butcher explained that his comic book connection goes way back. "When I was a wee, impressionable nerd, I fell in love with comics--mostly Marvel. Making more comics seems a good way to pay back all the hard work and love that went into the titles I read when I was a kid. Plus, I have to admit--getting to see the art of things that previously existed only in my head is something that doesn't ever get old!"

Is Butcher already planning ahead for additional ***Dresden Files*** comic book projects? "We haven't gotten to the point of talking about that as yet," Butcher said, "but I don't see any reason why we wouldn't produce more if we continue to see success."

While some authors put a lot of time and effort into self-promotion and publicity to draw attention to their latest work, Butcher chooses to take a different approach. "I'll talk up the comics on the website," Butcher said, "but honestly, I've *never* been a big fan of throwing lots of energy into promotion. I'd rather throw that energy into making a better product. Good books will promote themselves."

While Butcher is quite involved with ***Ghoul Goblins*** as co-writer, he tries to avoid micro-managing every appearance of Harry Dresden in every medium. "I try *not* to be that hands-on," Butcher said, mostly because I'm aware of my own limitations. As an author, I have the extremely groovy perk of complete control of my work. My editor might point out soft spots or things I forget—but at the end of the day, that book is all mine. Once you move into other media, though, producing the material becomes a collaborative effort. As writer, I focus on different elements of storytelling than would a graphic novel's writer, and upon very different elements than an artist needs to think about.

"I could try to write it all exactly like I want it, why can't you people understand my genius, '*KNEEL BEFORE ZOD!*', and so on, and I'm pretty sure folks would go along with it—for a little while, at least!" Butcher joked. "But I think it's much smarter for me to do my writer stuff that I'm good at, and let the people who are specifically good at *their* part of the job make their own creative calls based upon their much, *much* greater experience!

"Maybe if I ever grow up—or at least become marginally less childish—I will move into a more hands-on role. But I like how things have turned out so far. And if it isn't broken!..."

Jim Butcher's Dresden Files: Ghoul Goblins #1 is slated for January 2013 release from Dynamite Entertainment.

by Cliff Biggers

For readers who'd like to catch up on the comic book adventures of Harry Dresden, ***Jim Butcher's Dresden Files*** is compiled in five graphic novel collections:

- ***Jim Butcher's Dresden Files Graphic Novel Series #1: Welcome to the Jungle,*** featuring an original story by *Jim Butcher* that was nominated for a Best Graphic Story Hugo Award.
- ***Jim Butcher's Dresden Files Graphic Novel Series #2: Storm Front Volume 1,*** the first half of the comics adaptation of the novel.
- ***Jim Butcher's Dresden Files Graphic Novel Series #3: Storm Front Volume 2,*** the second half of the novel adaptation.
- ***Jim Butcher's Dresden Files Graphic Novel Series #4: Fool Moon Volume 1,*** the first half of the comics adaptation of the novel.
- ***Jim Butcher's Dresden Files Graphic Novel Series #5: Fool Moon Volume 2,*** the second half of the novel adaptation (this book is scheduled for late February 2013 release).

Courtesy your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!

COMIC SHOP NEWSARAMA

Produced by *Comic Shop News* in cooperation with *newsarama.com*

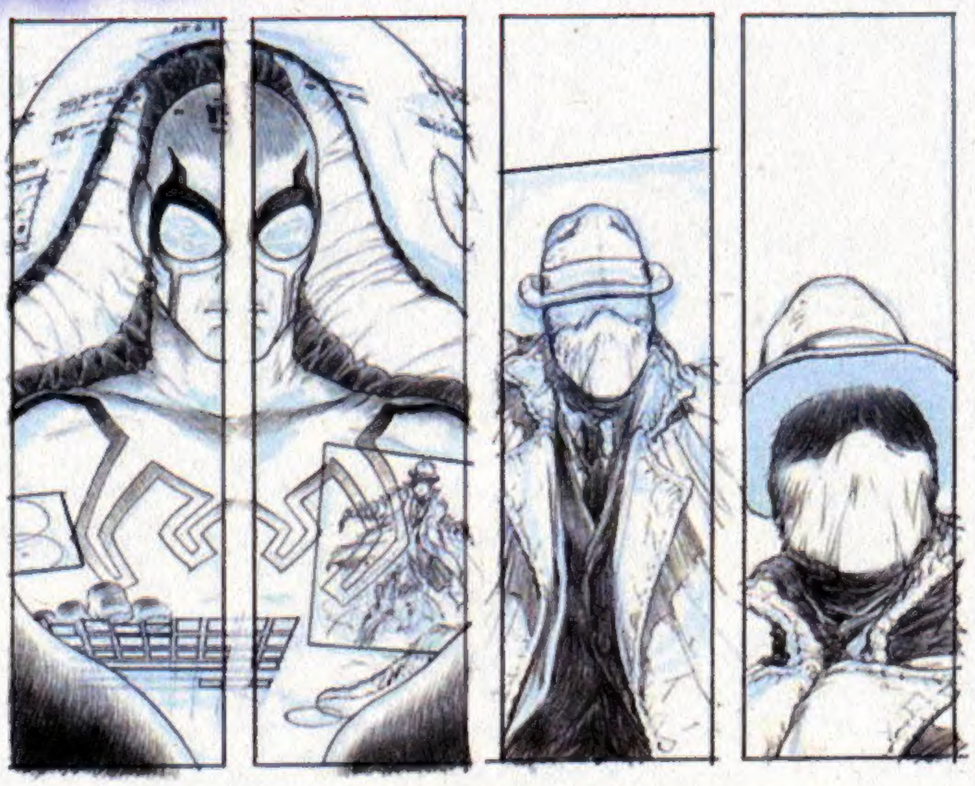
The Key to Success Is Knowing When to End

Slightly more than four and a half years after its debut, ***Locke and Key*** is coming to an end with its final seven-part series, ***Locke & Key: Omega.*** "We're building toward a conclusion that Joe's had in mind since ***Locke & Key: Welcome to Lovecraft,***" said *Chris Ryall*, IDW's Chief Creative Officer/Editor-in-Chief and ***Locke & Key's*** editor. "And while some of the story elements have shifted along the way, I can't remember ever seeing a long-running series that's had the complete story so fully developed from the start. I can't wait for people to see it. But I recommend everyone pick up two copies of this series, since the issues are gonna end up stained with tears when readers see what's going to happen to these beloved characters."

"***Locke & Key*** is the most fun I've ever had writing anything," co-creator and writer *Joe Hill* said. "It's been a Catherine's Wheel that throws off story possibilities instead of sparks and a part of me thinks I could live in Keyhouse forever. But I made a promise to the reader in the first issues, that one day 'all doors would be opened,' and that time is now. Time to open the door that leads to the end of our story and step through. Hopefully readers will like what's waiting for them on the other side."

"***Locke & Key*** has been a journey into pain, wonder, horror, magic, fear, courage, failure, love, hate, and hope," artist and co-creator *Gabriel Rodriguez* added. "To get lost in this mythology and drama has given me the chance to develop visuals and narrative in a way I could never have imagined possible. Mostly because of the collaborative effort with best friends and artists with passion, creativity and insanity unleashed. Guys, what a ride! But we've always been heading to a conclusion that will finally see the light at the end of this last journey. I'm as eager and excited as any reader to open the last door, reveal the final mystery, and unveil the fate of our beloved characters. Be warned - unexpected turns and terrible surprises ahead!"

"And, just because this is the end of the Locke family's story doesn't mean it's the very end of ***Locke & Key,***" Ryall added cryptically, indicating that Hill and Rodriguez might have other plans related to the world of ***Locke & Key.***



Multiversity Arrives in Our World in Late 2013

Multiversity. *Grant Morrison* fans have been eagerly awaiting this grand multiverse-spanning project since it was first rumored in early 2009. The subsequent months have brought occasional teasers regarding the titles and the artists, but an actual launch date has remained elusive.

Unfortunately, the exact launch date is *still* elusive, but Morrison has given fans a target time period, at least!

According to Morrison, readers can expect to see ***Multiversity*** launch in late 2013, presenting a number of tales set in various parallel universes and exploring relationship of the Multiverse to the New 52 DCU. The first six books will each take place in different realities, while the series wrap-up will fill out the seventh and eighth books.

The first release in the ***Multiversity*** saga will be ***Pax Americana,*** illustrated by frequent Morrison collaborator *Frank Quitely;* this issue will take place in a parallel reality inspired by the original Charlton Action Heroes Universe that was in part the inspiration for *Alan Moore & Dave Gibbons'* ***Watchmen. Pax Americana*** will feature the Ted Kord Blue Beetle, the enigmatically Randian Question, and a version of Captain Atom somewhat influenced by ***The Watchmen's*** Dr. Manhattan (who was, of course, originally influenced by the Charlton Captain Atom). Other books in the line include ***Society of Superheroes,*** a pulpish version of the DCU; ***The Just,*** focusing on celebrity young heroes; ***Thunderworld,*** offering a different look at the Shazam! family; and ***Mastermen,*** featuring a twisted version of the Justice League.

Look for more info on ***Multiversity*** as the project's release date approaches.

Explosive Announcements from Dynamite

Dynamite Entertainment, consistently the sixth-place publisher in the comic book marketplace (right behind the industry's "Big Five"—DC, Marvel, IDW, Image, and Dark Horse), isn't willing to rest on its laurels. Quite the contrary, publisher *Nick Barrucci* has revealed that Dynamite has some major plans in the works, and he was willing to share some of those plans with ***CSN.***

- A crossover involving ***The Army of Darkness*** and *Tim Seeley's* ***Hack/Slash*** is in development for 2013 release.
- *Mark Waid* will make his Dynamite writing debut; Waid will be helming the company's ***Green Hornet*** relaunch.
- *Garth Ennis's* new project ***Red Team*** is the leadoff title for a new Crime Line; the second book in the line will be a crime series by *Andy Diggle.*
- *Tom Sniegoski* is returning to ***Vampirella*** as writer of the new series ***Vampirella Strikes.***
- *Brian Buccellato,* co-writer of ***The Flash,*** is joining Dynamite as writer of ***The Black Bat.***
- Acclaimed cosmic maestros *Dan Abnett & Andy Lanning* are bringing their SF storytelling skills to ***Battlestar Galactica,*** where they'll be relaunching the franchise.

SPIDER-MAN

BY STAN LEE & LARRY LIEBER

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•With both The Bionic Man and the Bionic Woman appearing under the Dynamite banner, it was inevitable that the two would meet—but it turns out their first meeting will be a confrontation! *Keith Champagne* is the writer of the new ***Bionic Man Vs. Bionic Woman*** limited series.

•*Fred Van Lente,* a writer who's more than a little familiar with the walking dead after writing multiple ***Marvel Zombies*** limited series, has been tapped to write the new ***It's a Mad Mad Zombie World*** series.

•*Matt Sturges,* a writer who's very familiar with Vertigo readers for his work on ***Jack of Fables*** and ***Fairest,*** is venturing into the world of fairy tales once again as writer of Dynamite's ***Damsels: Mermaids*** series.

•***New York Times*** best-selling author *Peter Brett* is writing a ***Red Sonja*** limited series.

•*Jim Butcher* is writing his first *original* Dynamite ***Dresden Files*** project with the debut of ***Jim Butcher's Dresden Files: Ghoul Goblin,*** co-written with *Mark Powers.*

•The hit television series ***Grimm*** is coming to comics in an original comic book series in 2013.

•When ***The Shadow*** launched from Dynamite earlier this year, the publisher offered a number of incentive covers that culminates with original hand-drawn sketch covers featuring pencil art by *Alex Ross* and ink art by *Jae Lee.* In late November, the publisher surpasses that with ultra-limited variant covers for ***Masks #1,*** the crossover series that features the Shadow, the Spider, the Green Hornet, the Black Bat, Zorro, and many others. Stores will have an opportunity to qualify for ultra-limited variants that include hand-watercolored original images by *Alex Ross* and hand-drawn original images by *Jae Lee* depicting one of the stars of the pulp-era crossover series; qualifying stores can specify the character of their choice. (Considering what an *Alex Ross* hand-painted piece of art normally sells for, this may be the bargain of the year in spite of its hefty pricetag!)

Back to Press

•***Avengers Babies Vs. X-Men Babies by Skottie Young Poster 2nd Printing*** (AUG128337), featuring the fan-favorite image of Marvel supertykes facing off against one another, in stores 11/14.

•***Guarding the Globe #2 2nd Printing*** (AUG128358), in stores 11/7.

•***Happy #1 2nd Printing*** (AUG128247), in stores 10/31.

•***Revival #2 3rd Printing*** (AUG128228), in stores 10/31.

•***Revival #3 2nd Printing*** (AUG128229), in stores 10/31.

•***Thief of Thieves #9 2nd Printing*** (AUG128359), in stores 11/7.

After Who, Where?

Nathan Edmondson & Tonci Zonjic's ***Who Is Jake Ellis?,*** nominated for an Eisner Award for Best Limited Series, was a story of identity and consciousness that positively begged for a sequel—a sequel that Edmondson, Zonjic, and Image Comics are delivering in ***Where Is Jake Ellis?***

The new series delves deeper in the mystery of Jake Ellis and how he became linked to super-spy Jon Moore's consciousness. Readers will recall that Jake and Jon infiltrated "The Facility," where Jon was transformed from a CIA analyst into a field agent who can predict almost every move of his targets—thanks to Jake Ellis, a man who can see everything but whom only Jon can see.

The second ***Jake Ellis*** volume picks up a year after the end of the first, with Jon Moore in hiding from his past—and The Facility. But these are the people who created him—and Jake Ellis—and they won't be an easy tail to shake. Soon Jon is in their crosshairs once again, and he will need Jake Ellis to survive. Now Jon has two missions: stop The Facility, and find a man that no one else can see.

"Tonci and I had more story in mind when we conceived ***Who Is Jake Ellis?,*** and this is it," Edmondson said. "We've grown together as creators, and we're more than thrilled to walk Jon Moore and Jake Ellis back into the pages of an Image Comics book and into the hands of readers."

Where Is Jake Ellis? #1 is slated for mid-November release.

CSNsider

•Fantagraphics' next *Carl Barks* reprint title will be ***The Old Castle's Secret,*** and will include (in addition to the title story) the Barks classic "The Sheriff of Bullet Valley" and more than a dozen other Barks duck classics.

•The next two Fantagraphics EC volumes will focus on *Johnny Craig's* crime stories and *Al Feldstein's* science fiction tales; look for 'm in the first half of 2013.

•*Todd McFarlane* has reportedly filed suit against long-time friend *Al Simmons* over (in part) Simmons' book ***The Art of Being Spawn.*** McFarlane's attorneys assert that copyrighted material was used in the book without permission, and that the book reveals confidential information that Simmons has agreed to keep secret. McFarlane also objects to the use of his name in promoting the book.

CSNput:

"Missing In Action"

Our "Missing In Action: The Top Ten" in ***Comic Shop News #1320*** generated a lot of email. Many of you were very pleased to see an article pointing out books that needed to be reprinted, while others had their own suggestions and corrections for our list.

•Reader *Neal Alejandre* pointed out an error: while we indicated in the article that ***Elfquest Archives Volume One*** was the first to sell out of its DC Archives print run, it was actually ***Elfquest Volume Two*** that sold out (and soared in price) first, while the first volume actually remained in print for a while longer. Alas, it's now a moot point, since ***Elfquest Archives Volumes One, Two,*** and ***Four*** are *all* sold out from DC, making it even harder for readers to enjoy *Wendy & Richard Pini's* brilliant fantasy series.

•Reader *Brian Scott* offered his own suggestion for a "Missing In Action" storyline. "I wish DC could reprint the original Shazam/Mister Mind serial from ***Captain Marvel Adventures #s 22-46."*** While this story was at one time collected in 1989's American Nostalgia Library hardcover ***The Monster Society of Evil Deluxe Limited Collector's Edition HC,*** that 3000 copy limited edition slipcased set sold out many years ago and is hard to find at an affordable price. Back in 2009, DC solicited orders for ***DC Classics Library: Shazam!—The Monster Society of Evil,*** a hardcover collection of the entire storyline, but the book was subsequently removed from the schedule and never saw print. At the time it was cancelled, DC said, "This title will be resolicited at a later date," but that later date has yet to arrive, unfortunately.

OOPS!
GO THERE YOU ARE! NOW CAN'T I'LL PUT YOU WHERE YOU CAN'T PULL ANY MORE TRICKS!
LET'S SEE YOU SQUEEZ OUT OF THIS, WORM!
STRIKE ELEVEN? ONLY SECONDS? HA, HERE, HO!
THAT'S RIGHT, PUPILS -- IT WORKS LIKE THIS, SEE?
POW! LET ME GO----!
OKAY, GO TO KEENAN --- IN PRISONLAND!
POW POW POW POW
BUT ENOUGH SHILLY-SHALLYING!
I'LL CHEW YOU UP!
WHACKO!
THERE GO OUR TREATS!

•Reader *Allan Little* suggested that we add "all of the independent work of *Steve Ditko* to the list. ***Mister A, Static, The Avenging World***—a whole bookshelf's worth of Ditko socio-political commentary, and it's not available for today's readers. I know that Ditko's political stuff isn't everybody's cup of tea, but I think there are enough readers who'd appreciate that material that *someone* should put it back into print."

JUSTICE DEMANDS THAT MAN'S PRINCIPLES BE DEFINED IN TERMS OF BLACK AND WHITE, IN GOOD OR EVIL! MEN CAN CHOOSE TO BE GREY, TO BE CORRUPT, BUT THERE CAN BE NO GREY. NO CORRUPT PRINCIPLES!
THAT FOOL THINKS THERE IS A MIDDLE OF THE ROAD BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL THAT HE CAN HAVE THE ADVANTAGES OF BOTH SIDES - TO BE HELD AS GOOD AND TO PROFIT THROUGH EVIL! I'LL SHOW YOU WHERE THE ACTIONS OF THE COMPROMISERS OF EVIL REALLY TAKE THEM!
HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!
AS LONG AS I STAY ON THE LINE, I HAVE A SHORT CUT TO SUCCESS!
Mr. A
by Ditko

YOU CAN'T EAT THESE NEW PEOPLE! YOU'LL GET INDIGESTION!
?
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 10-9
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•Reader *Lindsay Clark* wrote about a more recent offering. "I tried to buy a copy of ***Superman Earth One*** at my local comic shop, and they didn't have it and they told me it was out of print! That definitely deserves a place on the Missing in Action list!" Good news, Lindsay—it's now available, and your comic shop can get a copy for you if they haven't done so already. The book wasn't out of print, but it was between printings—that is, DC had send it back to press, but there were a few weeks when copies were unavailable. You must have checked with your friendly neighborhood comic shop during that time. This happens with every major publisher from time to time; they try to gauge sales velocity to ensure that strong sellers are reprinted in new editions without any discernible gap, but every now and then a spike in sales can result in a book selling out before the new printings are ready.

•Reader *Greg Pinson* wrote to add his thoughts on our "Missing in Action" list. "As a collector who loves the ***Marvel Omnibus*** collections, I'm very frustrated that almost all of them are out of print and can't be found at all. the books that have driven me crazy as a collector are ***Fantastic Four Omnibus Volume 2, Amazing Spider-Man by Stan Lee & Steve Ditko Omnibus Volume 1,*** and ***Tomb of Dracula Omnibus Volume 1.*** When Marvel did a recolored reprint of ***Amazing Fantasy #15*** and ***Amazing Spider-Man #1*** this past summer, they even listed that ***Spidey Omnibus*** in the back, but they never reprinted it!" We tried to reach out to Marvel for info about any possible reprint plans for these and other missing volumes, but did not receive an answer as of presstime.

•*Brendan LeCroy* wrote to complain that "You didn't mention ***Ghost Rider.*** I'm not talking about that dopey guy on the motorcycle with his head on fire; I want to see a collection of the Western ***Ghost Rider*** from the 1950s and the 1960s." We're right there with you, Brendan! This wonderful Western series began its fourteen-issue Magazine Enterprises in 1950; the book featured several covers by *Frank Frazetta,* while the interior work by *Dick Ayers* was some of the best of his career. Ayers returned to the character in 1967 when Marvel kicked off its seven-issue ***Ghost Rider*** series. Like you, we'd love to see one hefty volume (or even two smaller books) reprinting all twenty-one of those stories! The fact that they didn't all appear from Marvel originally might complicate things, but general concensus is that the ME issues are now in the public domain; if this is true, Marvel would be able to publish those issues in a collection with their 1960s stories—so howsabout it, Marvel?

ALL NEW X-MEN #1 NOW

Brian Bendis (W); Stuart Immonen (A)

(Marvel SEP120542 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

The original five students of Professor X—you remember, the famous five in their black and yellow duds—are plucked from the past and thrust into today's Marvel Universe, where they discover that the future is *nothing* like they imagined...

Why Should You Care?

If you're one of those readers who miss the way things used to be, then here's your chance to meet a group of heroes who feel the very same way! It's also a "second chance" for Cyclops, Marvel Girl, Iceman, Angel, and the Beast to get back to their idealistic roots, and for mutant fans to enjoy a fresh start with minimal continuity baggage to keep track of.

ARROW #1

Marc Guggenheim & Andrew Kreisberg (W); Mike Grell (A)

(DC OCT120235 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

The Green is gone—this is just the Arrow, the crime guise adopted by Oliver Queen after his return home from five years of societal isolation on a remote island in the Pacific.

Why Should You Care?

The basics of the story are the same, but this is a darker, more byronic version of the Green Arrow motif than you'll find in the New 52 comic. And to make sure that it captures the feel of the CW television series, DC has enlisted Arrow creators *Marc Guggenheim & Andrew Kreisberg* to do the honors—and they're joined by ***Last of the Longbow Hunters*** Green Arrow reinventor *Mike Grell* on art!

CSN TOP C

BOYS #72

Garth Ennis (W); Darick Robertson (A)

(Dynamite SEP120975 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

The long day closes on the Brooklyn Bridge, as a hero finally meets his destiny. There's one last deal to be done, as Stillwell finds out the real cost of doing business, and one last surprise for Rayner, as she begins her long-dreamed of political career.

Why Should You Care?

Garth Ennis reunites with artist *Darick Robertson* to bring the Boys' saga to a close. And this isn't a rushed ending—Ennis has been building to this moment almost from the time ***The Boys*** launched, so it truly is the culmination of everything that has come before.

CAPTAIN AMERICA #1 NOW

Rick Remender (W); John Romita Jr. (A)

(11/21 Marvel SEP120573 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

The Marvel Universe that Captain America has known is a thing of the past, as he finds himself far from home, thrust into the very different reality of Dimension Z.

Why Should You Care?

What happens when the Sentinel of Liberty is thrust into a reality designed by the diabolical Arnim Zola? That's what *Rick Remender & John Romita Jr.* reveal in this

IN YOU GO! GOOD GIRL, NELLIE!
NOT THAT WE DON'T APPRECIATE YOUR HELP—
BUT WHAT'S A TIGER DOING RUNNING LOOSE ON LONG ISLAND?
STAN LEE
LARRY LIEBER
10-10
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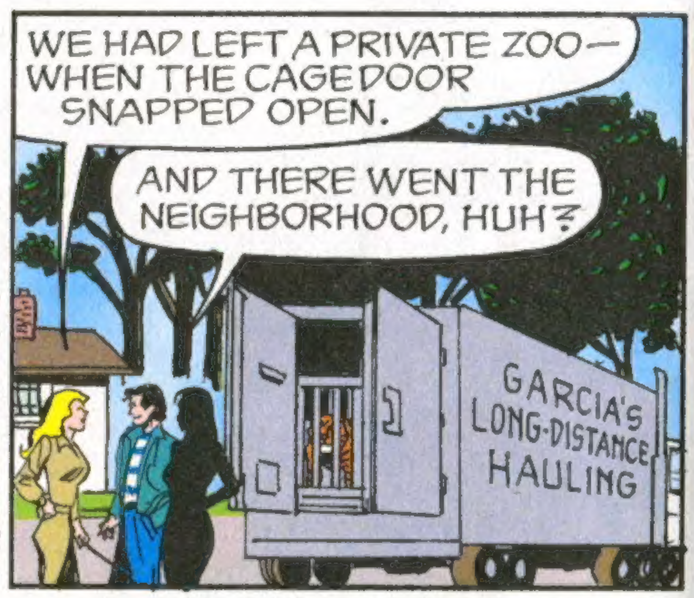
WE HAD LEFT A PRIVATE ZOO— WHEN THE CAGEDOOR SNAPPED OPEN.
AND THERE WENT THE NEIGHBORHOOD, HUH?
GARCIA'S LONG-DISTANCE HAULING
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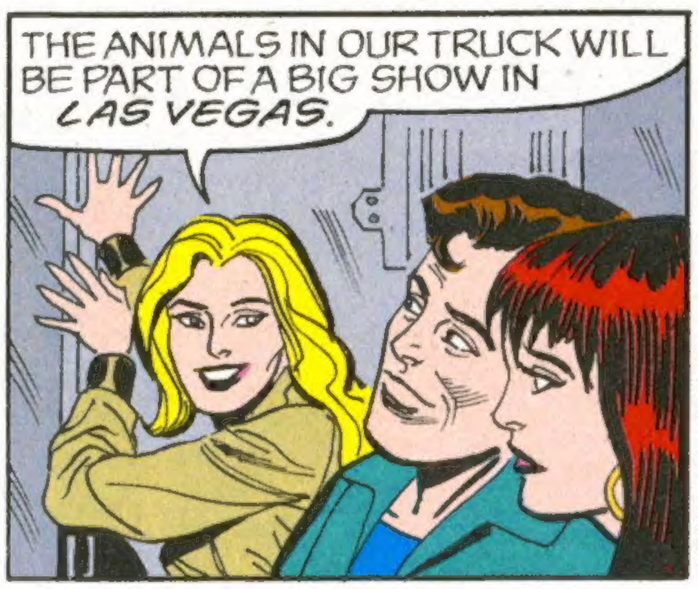
THE ANIMALS IN OUR TRUCK WILL BE PART OF A BIG SHOW IN LAS VEGAS.
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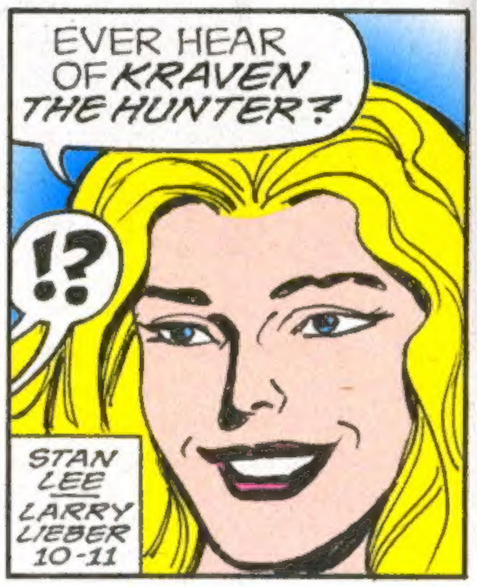
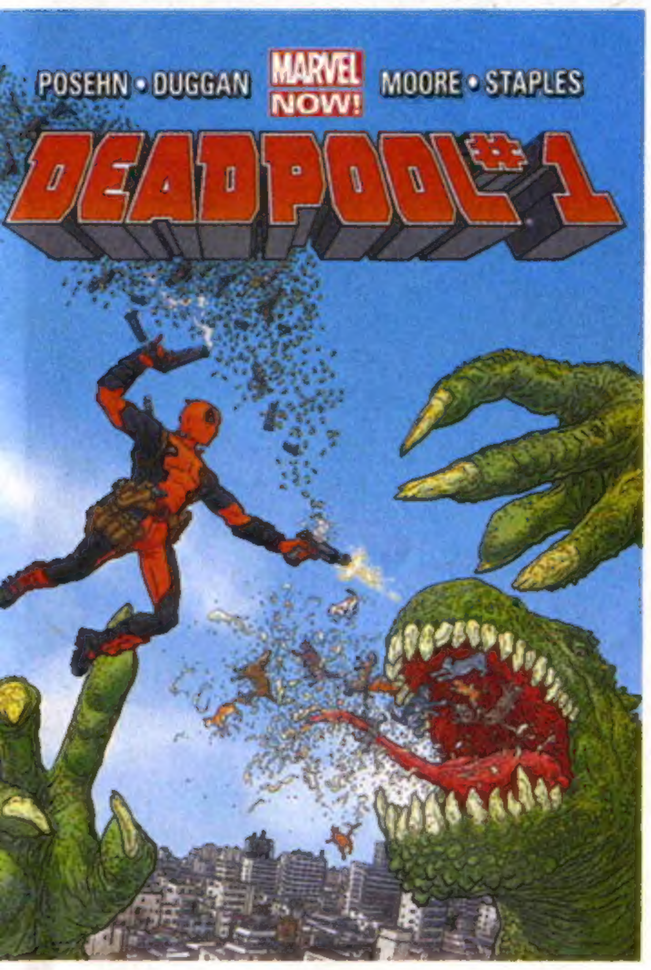


COMICS: NOVEMBER

series that strips away the irrelevancy, exploring the relationship between Cap's past, present, and future.



DEADPOOL #1 NOW

Gerry Duggan & Brian Posehn (W); Tony Moore (A)

(Marvel SEP120598 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

Dead former Presidents from George Washington to Gerald Ford have been resurrected? So who's going to take them on? Well, the title of the book answers that question...

Why Should You Care?

Comedy writers *Gerry Duggan & Brian Posehn* put the funny back in funnybook with this relaunch of the Merc with a Mouth's series—and when the menace involves walking dead Presidents, who's better suited for the job than one-time *Walking Dead* artist *Tony Moore?*

FABLES: WEREWOLVES OF THE HEARTLAND HC

Bill Willingham (W) Jim Fern, Craig Hamilton, Ray Snyder, & Mark Farmer (A)

(Vertigo/DC JUL120247 $22.99)

What's the Scoop?

Bigby Wolf embarks on a quest through the American Heartland to find a new location for Fabletown. In his wanderings, Bigby stumbles across a small town named Story City, that, amazingly enough, seems to be populated by werewolves. Who are they, where did they come from... and why do they know so much about Bigby?

Why Should You Care?

Bill Willingham delivers an early holiday treat to his loyal ***Fables*** followers: an original graphic novel focusing on the ever-popular Bigby Wolf!

FANTASTIC FOUR #1 NOW

Matt Fraction (W); Mark Bagley (A)

(Marvel SEP120586 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

The Fantastic Four pack themselves and two kids into the most cosmic Fantastic-CaRV you've ever seen an embark on an incredible journey through infinite time and space.

Why Should You Care?

Matt Fraction & Mark Bagley return the Fantastic Four to their family roots with this storyline that sends them on the ultimate super-family road trip that gets back to the group dynamic that's at the core of the Four.

GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO HC VOL 1

Denise Mina (W); Leonardo Manco & Andrea Mutti (A)

(Vertigo/DC JUL120243 $19.99)

What's the Scoop?

Harriet Vanger, a scion of one of Sweden's wealthiest families, disappeared over forty years ago; today, her aged uncle hires Mikael Blomkvist, a crusading journalist recently trapped by a libel conviction, to uncover the truth. Aided by the pierced and tattooed punk prodigy Lisbeth Salander, Blomkvist uncovers a tale of shocking corruption in this adaptation of *Stieg Larsson's* best-selling novel.

Why Should You Care?

Best-selling mystery novelist *Denise Mina* brings her suspenseful storytelling to play in this superb adaptation of the first half of ***Girl With the Dragon Tattoo.***

INDESTRUCTIBLE HULK #1 NOW

Mark Waid (W); Leinil Francis Yu (A)

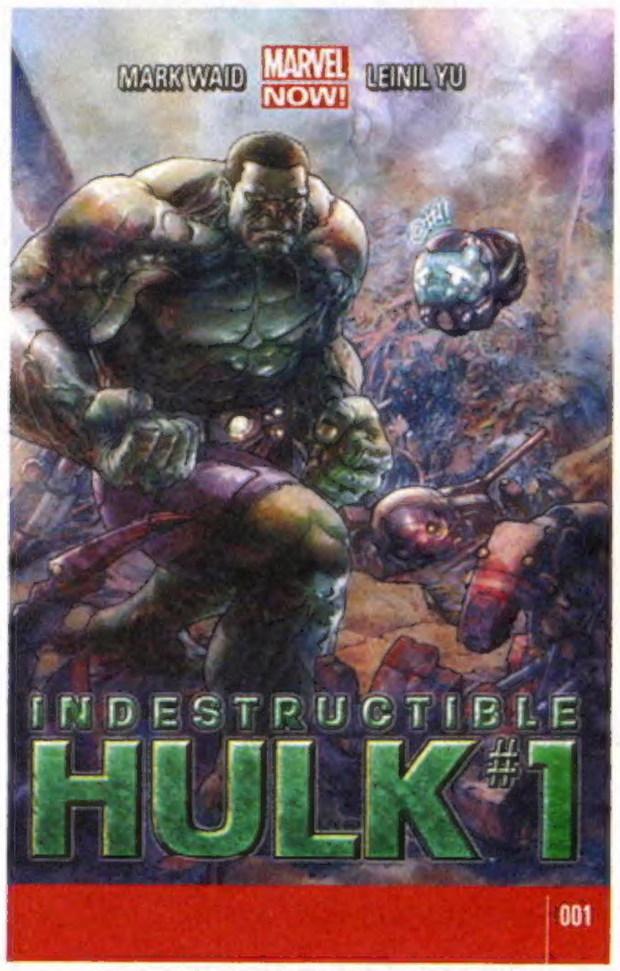
(Marvel SEP120531 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

What happens when the unstoppable force of the Hulk is guided by the brilliance of Dr. Bruce Banner? No one really knows for sure, but SHIELD knows that they want the combination on their team!

Why Should You Care?

Mark Waid, the Eisner and Harvey Award winner who made ***Daredevil*** a must-read, revamps the Hulk—and if you love well-crafted comics, strong storytelling, and plenty of action, then you'll want to see what he has in the works here!



IRON MAN #1 NOW

Kieron Gillen (W); Greg Land (A)

(Marvel SEP120550 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

The lethal techno-virus Extremis is out in the wild—and up for grabs to the highest bidder! It's up to Tony Stark to shut it down... but in order to do that, he's going to need some new armor!

Why Should You Care?

Tony Stark, technology, innovative armor... *Kieron Gillen* delivers everything that Iron Man fans want to read. And of course, ace artist *Greg Land* makes this the best-looking ***Iron Man*** in many, many years!

JUDGE DREDD #1

Duane Swierczynski (W); Nelson Daniel & Paul Gulacy (A)

(IDW SEP120280 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Mega-City One is home to over 400 million citizens... and more than a few criminals, misfits, and lunatics, as well as some deadly robots. What keeps the jam-packed metropolis running as smoothly sa possible? The judges, that's what—and there's no judge better at his job than Judge Dredd.

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THAT RELAUNCHED
THE VALIANT UNIVERSE!
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Why Should You Care?

No surprises here—just first-class tales of Judge Dredd by an a-list team (and it's been far too long since we've seen that in the US, hasn't it?).

MASKS #1

Chris Roberson (W); Alex Ross (A)
(Dynamite SEP120970 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

In 1938 New York, criminals have taken control of the government through their corrupt political party, transforming the state into a fascist realm. It's up to the masked heroes—the Shadow, the Green Hornet, Kato, the Spider, and others—to bring justice back.

Why Should You Care?

Chris Roberson is at the storytelling helm of the first-ever A-list pulp hero crossover tale—but the *real* event here is the fact that *Alex Ross* is supplying the fully painted art for this landmark issue!

SHADOWMAN (NEW) #1

Justin Jordan (W); Patrick Zircher (A)
(Valiant SEP121219 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Jack Boniface is about to become to only thing that stands between his city and an army of unspeakable monstrosities from beyond the night. But is the mantle of Shadowman a blessing or a curse?

Why Should You Care?

The amazing Valiant relaunch may be the year's most surprising publishing event—top quality characters, A-list creative talent, a carefully managed publishing plan. And now it's time for Valiant's final series launch of 2012, featuring the return of one of Valiant's most popular characters.

X-MEN LEGACY #1 NOW

Simon Spurrier (W); Tan Eng Huat
(Marvel SEP120580 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

With Professor X slain at the hands of Cyclops, his son Legion—perhaps the most powerful *and* the most unstable mutant in the world—struggles to conquer his own demons and live up to his father's legacy as head of the new X-Men.

Why Should You Care?

It's a new era for mutants, and that means a new team of X-Men under the direction of a new leader... but it's not going to be an easy transition, as some of the former X-Men may have their own opinions about Legion and his team.

EVENTS OF THE MONTH

Death of the Family

BATMAN #14

Scott Snyder (W); Greg Capullo (A)
(DC SEP120170 $3.99)

BATGIRL #14

Gail Simone (W); Ed Benes (A)
(DC SEP120180 $2.99)

BATMAN AND ROBIN #14

Peter Tomasi (W);
Patrick Gleason & Mick Gray (A)
(DC SEP120179 $2.99)

CATWOMAN #14

Ann Nocenti (W); Adriana Melo (A)
(DC SEP120183 $2.99)

SUICIDE SQUAD #14

Adam Glass (W); Fernando Dagnino (A)
(DC SEP120215 $2.99)

The Joker's New 52 debut —way back there in *Detective Comics #1*—was one of the most shocking moments of the DC relaunch. Now DC goes even further as the raggedy-man Joker returns, more sinister and more psychopathic than ever before. During his criminal career, the Joker's actions have impacted the lives of the Dark Knight and many of those close to him—so what does he have in store for Batman's extended family now?

Rise of the Third Army

GREEN LANTERN #14

Geoff Johns (W);
Doug Mahnke & Christian Alamy (A)
(DC SEP120188 $2.99)

GREEN LANTERN CORPS #14

Peter Tomasi (W);
Fernando Pasarin & Scott Hanna (A)
(DC SEP120191 $2.99)

GREEN LANTERN: NEW GUARDIANS #14

Anthony Bedard (W); Aaron Kuder (A)
(DC SEP120193 $2.99)

RED LANTERNS #14

Peter Milligan (W); Miguel Angel Sepulveda (A)
(DC SEP120195 $2.99)

Hal and Sinestro are missing, and the Justice League confronts the new Green Lantern looking for answers. Guy Gardner's life is ruined, and John Stewart is targeted for destruction. Kyle Rayner is confronted by Arkillo, the God of Terror. And as the Red Lanterns confront the Third Army, another Lantern will be converted. Are the Lanterns about to face a truly unstoppable army? Find out as the Green Lantern event of the year continues!

Collected Cool: November's Best Reprint Editions

52 OMNIBUS HC

(DC JUL120217 $150.00)

Massive hardcover compilation of the entire 52 week saga by *Geoff Johns, Grant Morrison, Greg Rucka, & Mark Waid* chronicling a year without Superman, Batman, and Wonder Woman.

COMPLETE CALVIN & HOBBES SC SLIPCASE ED

(Andrews McMeel SEP120759 $100.00)

If you didn't pick up this boat-anchor of a collection featuring every *Bill Watterson* ***Calvin and Hobbes*** strip edition in hardcover, then you have no excuse now that it's offered as an affordable slipcased paperback set!

GIL KANE AMAZING SPIDER MAN ARTIST'S ED HC

(IDW AUG120380 $195.00)

This lavish oversized hardcover (printed in the same size as the original art) reproduces *Gil Kane's* art for ***Amazing Spider-Man #s 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, & 121*** in full color so that you can see every nuance and detail of the original art.

JUDGE DREDD COMPLETE BRIAN BOLLAND HC

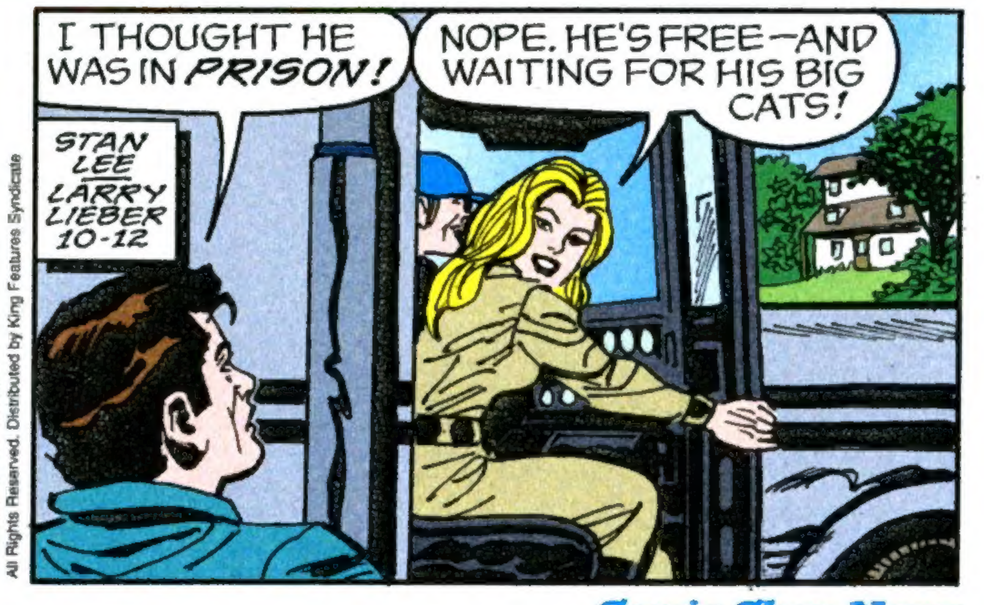
(IDW SEP120284 $49.99)

The title says everything you need to know: twenty stories, all featuring stunning art by *Brian Bolland.*

SANDMAN SLIPCASE SET

(DC JUN120275 $199.99)

A custom-designed slipcase houses this collection of all ten redesigned ***Sandman*** trade paperbacks, using the same enhanced coloring and revised content as featured in the ***Sandman Absolute Editions.***



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SUPERMAN AND BATMAN TOGETHER IN
WORLD'S FINEST
COMICS
JUNE
NO. 185
COME ON, SUPERMAN! I'M BETTING ON YOU TO FINISH HIM!
COME ON, BATMAN! YOU CAN BEAT SUPERMAN NOW THAT HE'S LOST HIS POWERS! DEFEAT HIM AND I WIN!
featuring
"THE GALACTIC GAMBLERS!"

SHOWCASE PRESENTS WORLD'S FINEST TP VOL 4

(DC AUG120261 $19.99)

This collection of ***World's Finest*** team-ups from the late 60s and early 70s features some of *Neal Adams'* first interior work on Batman, along with oodles of art by the incomparable Silver Age great *Curt Swan*.

WALT DISNEY'S DONALD DUCK HC VOL 2: CHRISTMAS SHACKTOWN

(Fantagraphics SEP121088 $28.99)

The third volume of Fantagraphics' reprinting of *Carl Barks'* classic ***Donald Duck*** and ***Uncle Scrooge*** work focuses on the early 1950s, universally considered Barks' peak period, all supplemented with extensive notes and essays by the foremost Duck experts in the world.

FYI: Must-Have Additions to Your Reference Library

AMERICAN COMIC BOOK CHRONICLES SC 1960-1964

(TwoMorrows AUG121321 $39.95)

John Wells presents the insightful history of one of the most transitional periods in comics history—an era that included the rebirth of DC's superhero line, the dawning of the Marvel Age, and much more.

GOLDEN AGE OF DC COMICS 1935 - 1956 HC

(Taschen AUG121476 $59.95)

Paul Levitz follows up his acclaimed ***75 Years of DC Comics*** with the first in an expanded series of books focusing on DC's history in greater detail, complete with more thana thousand new images scattered through the five-volume set.

Hot Commodities: November's Hottest Merchandising & Collectibles

GENTLE GIANT IRON MAN MKII GOLD ARMOR MINI-BUST

(Gentle Giant MAY121879 $99.00)

Gentle Giant presents a sculpture of the Iron Man Mark II Armor (best known as the gold armor) that first appeared in ***Tales of Suspense #40.*** He may have worn it for little more than a year, but it's a fondly remembered part of Iron Man's Silver Age history.

JUSTICE LEAGUE CYBORG ACTION FIGURE

(DC Collectibles AUG120305 $22.95)

JUSTICE LEAGUE DARKSEID DELUXE ACTION FIGURE

(DC Collectibles AUG120307 $89.95)

JUSTICE LEAGUE WONDER WOMAN ACTION FIGURE

(DC Collectibles AUG120306 $22.95)

DC continues its line of ***New 52 Justice League*** action figures with two more heroes and a massive deluxe figure of the malevolent Darkseid (wanna bet which one is going to the hard-to-find figure a year from now?).

Check 'Em Out: Comics You *Should* Be Reading!

ALL STAR WESTERN #14

(DC SEP120209 $3.99)

What does the Eclipso Black Diamond have to do with Jonah Hex? You might be surprised!

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #698

(Marvel SEP120621 $3.99)

We don't know exactly what's happening in this issue as far as Spider-Man and Doctor Octopus are concerned, but writer *Dan Slott* assures us that you're not going to want to miss it—and Dan's never misled us before!

BALTIMORE: PLAY ONE SHOT

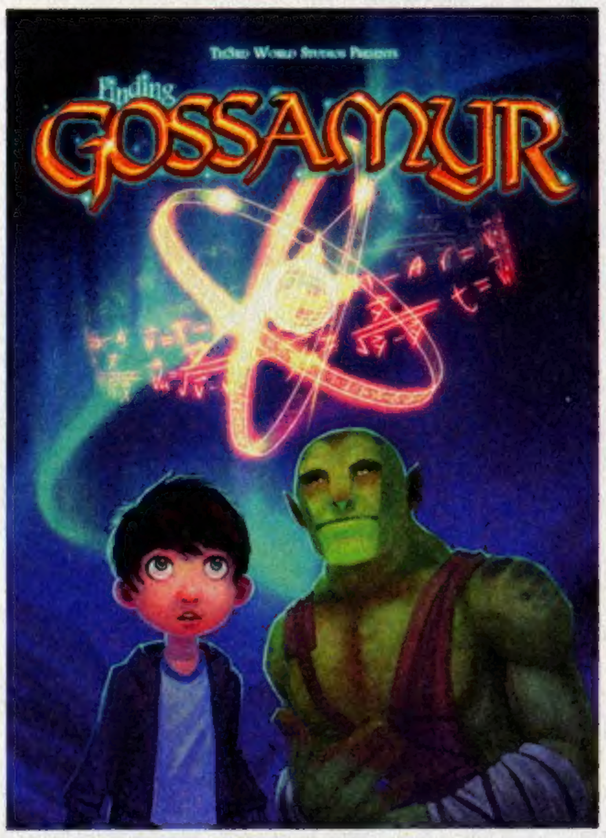
(Dark Horse SEP120040 $3.50)

A mad playwright wants to put on the ultimate Grand Guignol—so he enlists real vampires to make it a bloody great performance! And wait 'til you find out who the real author of the play is!

BATTLEFIELDS: GREEN FIELDS BEYOND PT 1 #1 (OF 6)

(Dynamite SEP120991 $3.99)

Garth Ennis goes to war again with another tale of the Tankies, set against the backdrop of the Korean War during the Chinese spring 1951 offensive. Don't look for hyperbolic adventure with superhero overtones—Ennis delivers gritty war drama with a remarkable sense of realism.



FINDING GOSSAMYR #3

(Th3rd World SEP121197 $3.99)

David Rodriguez & Sarah Ellerton continue the compelling adventures of Jenna and her brother Denny, a mathematical savant whose genius opened the passageway to the world of Gossamyr. Now Jenna and Denny are trapped in that realm, trying to find a way to save their friends... and themselves!

LOCKE & KEY: OMEGA #1 (OF 7)

(IDW SEP120289 $3.99)

Joe Hill and Gabriel Rodriguez launch the final Locke & Key story arc here, as Dodge has the Omega key, and nothing can stop him from using it…

MIND MGMT #0

(Dark Horse SEP120023 $2.99)

Three stories by *Matt Kindt* introduce the series' key players and delve deeper than ever into Mind Mgmt's secret history. If you haven't read the series, this is a great place to start—and if you have, then you know that you want it!

OWLY & WORMY HC: BRIGHT LIGHTS & STARRY NIGHTS

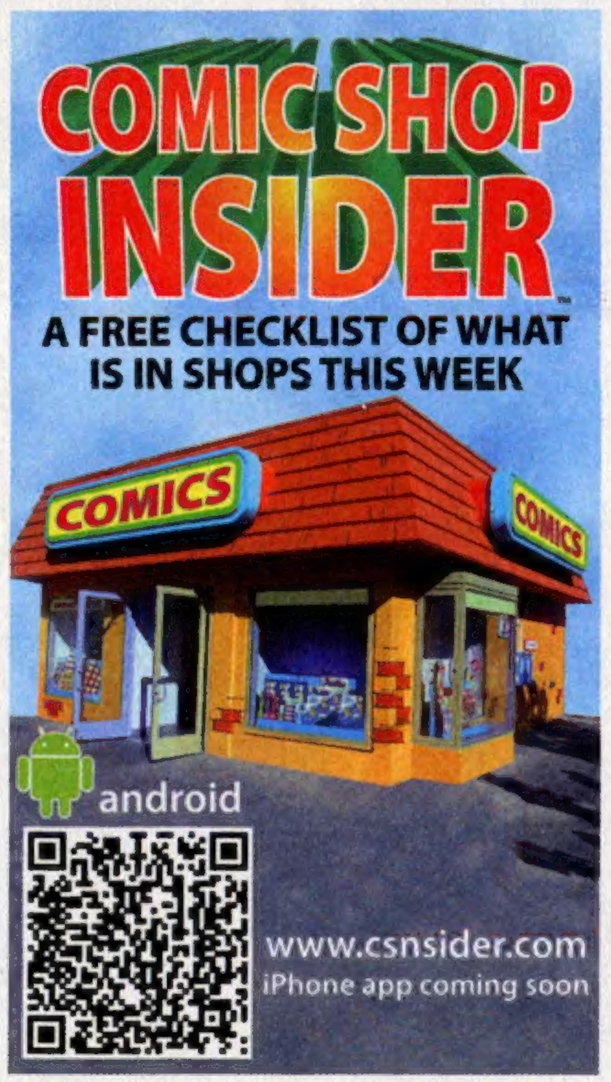
(Top Shelf AUG121310 $15.99)

Andy Runton continues to make wordless comics look easy—and that's the rel tribute to the artistry of this remarkable all-ages storyteller!

SMALLVILLE SEASON 11 #7

(DC SEP120229 $3.99)

Bryan Q. Miller continues the adventures of Superman and the ***Smallville*** version of Batman as the two confront the Prankster and Mister Freeze while struggling to protect the life of Joe Chill (?). This is a Batman unlike any you've seen before—a real amalgam of the classic Batman, the New 52 hero, and the ***Earth One*** take, with its own distinctive elements added to the mix.



SO MY OLD ENEMY KRAVEN IS BACK IN BUSINESS!
HOW DID HE GET OUT OF PRISON SO SOON?
GARCIA'S LONG-DISTANCE HAULING
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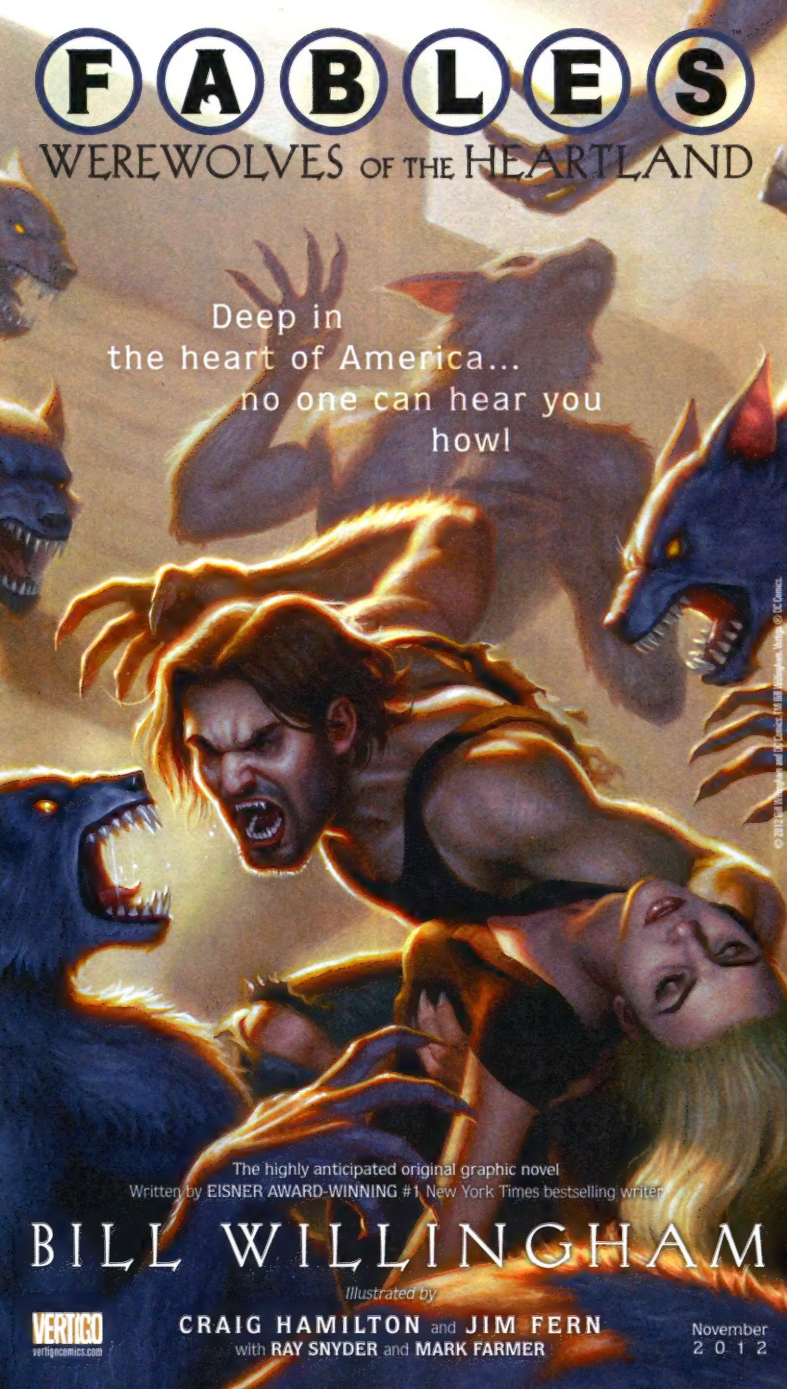
FABLES

WEREWOLVES OF THE HEARTLAND



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with **RAY SNYDER** and **MARK FARMER**

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